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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

72-HOUR REPORT

2 NOVEMBER 2020

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Butte Valley - Two Indicted on Fraud Charges in Connection with 2018 Camp Fire

(U) Federal officials have indicted two people for fraud, saying they claimed to be victims of the 2018 Camp Fire. According to the indictments, Cynthia Seeley claimed to have a mobile home in Magalia and Kristen Canapary claimed to have rented a home in Paradise. The indictment says, neither lived in, rented, or owned those homes. Seeley applied for and received relief payments of more than \$11,000, and Canapary received \$8,900. The two have been indicted for fraud in connection with a major disaster or emergency benefits. If convicted, they could face up to 30 years in prison, a fine of up to \$250,000. SOURCE: 31 October 2020, KCRA3

(U) San Francisco – Businesses Prepare for Possible Election Day Demonstrations

(U) The US presidential election is just one day away, and some businesses are preparing for the possibility of political unrest. Stores in San Francisco's Union Square and in the Financial District had crews boarding up windows. Police say there are no known threats to the city or polling places, but people are taking steps to prepare. San Francisco police say additional officers will be working and can respond to any spontaneous events that occur. They've canceled days off for officers and are in contact with state and federal partners.

SOURCE: 30 October 2020, NBC Bay Area

(U) Westminster – 'Suspicious Package' Prompts Evacuation of Voting Center

(U) A nearby "suspicious package" resulted in the evacuation of a Westminster voting center before a bomb squad deemed it safe. Westminster police responded after an employee at the vote center called and said they saw a person leaving a box in the parking area, adjacent to the Westminster Community Services Building, Sheriff's Commander Alan Iwashita said. Everyone at the vote center and the ballots were evacuated as a bomb squad responded to assess the package, ultimately determining it contained only miscellaneous items and nothing incendiary in any way, the commander said.

SOURCE: 31 October 2020, KTLA5

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) California – CBP Officers Seize \$7.6 Million Worth of Cocaine

(U) Calexico – US Customs and Border Protection officers at the Calexico Port of Entry in Imperial County seized 480-pounds of cocaine worth \$7.6 million from a US citizen. A 46-year-old man in a pickup arrived at the port of entry and was referred to further examination due to inconsistencies in his statements. As the truck drove through an X-ray imaging system, anomalies were spotted in the bed area of the vehicle. Officers discovered 182 packages of cocaine hidden in the tank and arrested the driver, who was booked into a federal detention facility in El Centro on criminal charges.

SOURCE: 30 October 2020, Times of San Diego

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(U) NATIONAL

(U) Louisiana - Two Officers Ambushed by Shooter on Pedicab

(U) New Orleans – One New Orleans police officer is in serious but stable condition after being shot in the face and a second has minor injuries after they were ambushed by a shooter, according to the New Orleans Police Department. The pair were on routine patrol in a marked SUV around the French Quarter when they were fired upon by a passenger in a pedicab, officials said. The suspect was quickly arrested by responding officers and was transported to the hospital "after suffering a possible medical episode at the time of his arrest."

SOURCE: 31 October 2020, ABC News

(U) Michigan - Alleged White Supremacy Group Member Arrested

(U) Detroit – The FBI and Michigan state police have arrested a self-proclaimed leader of the white supremacy group The Base and an alleged associate, Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel said. The suspects are linked to a December 2019 incident in which The Base allegedly targeted a Michigan family's home, mistakenly believing it belonged to a podcaster critical of the neo-Nazi movement. Justen Watkins, 25, the man who allegedly claimed to be leader of the group, and Alfred Gorman, 35, both of Michigan, have been charged with felony counts of gang membership, unlawful posting of a message and using computers to commit a crime. If convicted, they could face more than 25 years in prison. SOURCE: 30 October 2020, CBS News

(U) Washington – Demonstrations Continue After Fatal Police Shooting of Kevin Peterson Jr.

(U) Vancouver – Demonstrations following the fatal shooting of a 21-year-old Black man by Clark County deputies continued for a second straight night as questions intensified surrounding his death. Hundreds of people gathered near where Kevin Peterson Jr. was shot and killed one day earlier. Opposing demonstrations converged at the site, standing across the highway from each other. The first group held a candlelit vigil in Peterson's memory. The second, smaller group responded to calls to "take a stand" against violence carried out by "Portland antifa."

SOURCE: 30 October 2020, The Oregonian

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Afghanistan - At Least 19 People Killed in Attack on Kabul University

(U) Kabul – Gunmen in the Afghan capital stormed the country's largest university, killing 19 people in an hours-long attack. The assault coincided with a book fair that attracted senior Afghan and Iranian officials to the sprawling campus, including Iranian Ambassador Bahador Aminian. Interior ministry officials initially stated that the officials were thought to be the target of the attack. It was not immediately clear whether any of the officials were killed or wounded. The Taliban has denied responsibility. No other group immediately claimed the attack.

SOURCE: 2 November 2020, NPR

(U) Africa - American Hostage Rescued by "SEAL Team Six" in Raid

(U) Nigeria – An American hostage has been rescued in Nigeria by the US Naval Special Warfare Development Group (DEVGRU) in a raid. The elite commandos parachuted out of a US Air Force transport plane a few miles from the target. Without suffering any casualties, the SEALs rescued Philip Walton, 27, after killing a number of his captors. Walton was kidnapped by armed men last week in Niger, where he lives. The rescue took place in northern Nigeria, which neighbors Niger, officials said. SOURCE: 31 October 2020, Fox News

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(U) Canada – Sword-wielding Man Arrested After Deaths in Quebec

(U) Quebec City – A man dressed in medieval clothing and armed with a Japanese sword was arrested on suspicion of killing two people and wounding five others on Halloween near the historic Château Frontenac hotel in Quebec City. The attack on randomly chosen victims went on for nearly 2 and-a-half hours while police pursued the man armed with a katana throughout the city's downtown core on foot. Quebec's prosecutor's office said Carl Girouard, 24, faces two counts of first-degree murder and five counts of attempted murder.

SOURCE: 1 November 2020, AP News

(U) France – Six in Custody Over Nice Church Attack

(U) Paris – Two more men were arrested in connection with a knife attack that left three dead at a church in Nice, bringing the number of people in custody to six as investigators look at the suspected assailant's last known contacts, a French police source said. An assailant shouting "Allahu Akbar" (God is Greatest) beheaded a woman and killed two other people in a church in Nice, in France's second deadly knife attack in two weeks with a suspected Islamist motive.

SOURCE: 1 November 2020, Reuters

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